

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

SETTING GOALS FOR CLUB WORK IN 1939

Broadcast by C. E. Potter, Extension Service, Saturday, February 4, 1939, in the 4-H club program, National Farm and Home Hour, by 99 stations associated with the National Broadcasting Company.

- -00- -

FEB 23 1939

Hello, boys and girls, and friends of 4-H club work. of Agriculture

If you and I could stand in some high place--and see all over the country--we might see some 70 thousand groups of boys and girls holding meetings of their 4-H clubs--because there are that many 4-H clubs in the United States--70 thousand of them. And at this season of the year--those 70 thousand 4-H clubs are thinking about their plans--for the year 1939. Probably you're doing that in your own club. And probably you know that when you begin to make plans, you don't do it alone; thank goodness there are some older people who are interested in what your club does; your parents, and club leaders. So, the plans for a million and a quarter 4-H club members are being made with the help of about three and a half million people.

It's about making these plans that I'd like to talk for just a few minutes. I'm sure that you're looking ahead to the end of the year--and trying to figure out where you and your club would like to be by that time--certain things that you would like to do in the coming months--certain goals that you would like to reach. I hope that one of the goals you set for this year will have something to do with the welfare of your community as a whole. Take a look around you at the things your community needs, talk about the kind of farm, and home, and community life you think you--and others in your community--would like to have. Then see how 4-H clubs--your 4-H club--can help to achieve that kind of community life.

When you sit down with other boys and girls and with some of the grownups to discuss things like that, you're taking a most important step for the improvement of your community----I mean you're working together---and when people of a community---young and old---begin to work together---to set goals for their community and then work toward those goals---well, there isn't anything that they can't accomplish.

People who have watched 4-H clubs and club members have told me that one thing they like about club work is the opportunity that it gives boys and girls to learn to work and play with others. I'm sure every club member enjoys the chance for good times with other club members---on tours, trips, at fairs---and at home. Probably you can think of many things you've seen in the homes of other club members which you'd like to have in your own home. So I hope one of the goals for your 4-H club will be to give club members a chance to meet in different homes---for business or pleasure, and to take part in as many different activities as possible where club members can get together---not only with their own group, but with boys and girls in other 4-H clubs.

(Over)

One thing I believe you might think about in setting goals and making plans for your 4-H club this year is the fact that not all 4-H club members will stay on the farm. We want to do everything possible to encourage alert, able boys and girls to stay on the farm---but some will go to cities and towns. If you can plan some talks and discussions that will give some idea of living conditions in cities, it will be a real service to the boys and girls who leave the farm in favor of the city.

If you and I were in one big 4-H club---made up of all the 4-H clubs in the United States---and if we were to write our goals on a great big blackboard---do you know what we'd write as our goals? Well, I have an idea that we'd write a list something like this:

- First of all, we want our club to participate in community affairs.
- Next---we want all the group to work together---in planning---and in carrying out ideas.
- Then---we would have a goal reading this way: Increased income for the farm family.
- And---Wiser spending of the family's money.
- Better health.
- Better use of leisure time.
- And---better living for the farm family from the farm.

That's about the sort of list of goals that thousands of 4-H clubs all over the United States have set up for 1939. If your club has a set of objectives for the year that is something like that---then you've taken the first step in making your 4-H club an asset to your community---and a credit to the largest voluntary organization of rural boys and girls---in the world.

#